

In this essay I am going to be arguing in support of killing cane toads. I have viewed many articles which have allowed me to decide that these animals are pests. I will also be balancing this argument in defence of these wild creatures, however my main viewpoint is against these venomous large amphibians.

From looking into my research of people's cane toad opinions, it is noticeable that these deadly species are demolishing native wildlife of Australia. For them to be blocked they must be extinguished. Even though animals must be treated the same whether they're lethal or not, it is essential that these pests must die.

Cane toads are, "... big, ugly creatures.", (Mercer, 2006). They are covered with warts and poisonous glands. They were released into the Australian ecology in 1935 in the hope that they would control the destructive cane beetle population. Unfortunately, they became failures at controlling beetles but amazingly successful at reproducing and spreading themselves.

Why do they need to be eradicated? Queensland politician Shane Kruth says that, "They're killing our native animals and they're ~~having~~ <sup>taking</sup> over our habitat." (BBC, 2012) Furthermore, cane toads now number in their millions and are so toxic that crocodiles, death adder snakes and wild dingo dogs can die of cardiac arrest within 15 minutes of eating them.

Additionally cane toads can, "lay up to 35,000 eggs at a time and may produce two clutches a year." (The Epoch Times, 2005)

Not everyone views things this way. The animal welfare groups are outraged by an Australian city that has advocated the support of "cane toad golf" - beating to death the country's most notorious pest with golf clubs. (Squires, 2007) Further more the animal welfare groups reported "we accept that cane toads are a menace and they need to be eradicated. However, hitting them with golf clubs is inhumane and ineffective! "It's also sending the wrong message to children!" (Squires, 2007)

From conducting this research it was clear that cane toads don't have many allies. I believe this even though it's not necessarily fair to ~~eradicate~~ the toads, it's something which must be done for the good of Australia.

### References:

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